

*Memorandum of Conversation*

DATE: May 11, 1955

SUBJECT:

PARTICIPANTS: Defense - Mr. Ollon McGool  
Mr. Seymour Posrenze

State - Mr. Auchincloss - CFA  
Col. Raymond - L/GEP  
Mr. Hamilton - RNA  
Mr. Franklin - HM  
Mr. Noble - HM

CIA

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The group discussed chiefly the British Aide-memoire of February 18, and the British draft note proposed for presentation to the French Government. Those present felt that the Aide-memoire, in particular, needed clarification by the British, as did also the draft note to a certain extent.

There was much discussion regarding the role of the French in the return of the captured documents to Germany and the question was raised whether the French should have a decisive voice in passing on the return of these documents, except as to German documents relating to the occupation of France.

The question of a mutual right of veto by the U.S. and the U.K. was considered and differences of view were expressed. The CIA position was stated by [ ] to be that of wanting a firm veto all along the line. Other opinions expressed were that consultation should be interpreted to mean that, in case of a proposal by the U.S. or the U.K. to return documents to Germany, the other government (U.S. or U.K.) would be informed and given a right to express its judgment, but without the right of final veto.

Considerable doubts were expressed regarding the need for a joint Anglo-American agreement. Each government had its policy and these were close enough together to make possible working relations of a relatively informal character without a definite bilateral agreement.

It was agreed that we should try to have a meeting with Mr. Leishman and any other British representative next Tuesday, the 17th, at which time we would propose the postponement of an approach to the French and would seek clarification by the British of some points in their proposals and also explore alternative working arrangements.

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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Bagnall  
Central Intelligence Agency

FROM : G. Bernard Noble  
Department of State *GBN*

SUBJECT: Conference on German Documents

DATE: May 12, 1955

Herewith is a very brief summary of our discussion at the conference of May 11. I trust this covers the subject adequately.

Mr. Leishman has agreed to a conference here on Tuesday the 17th at 3:30. I shall hope to see you then.

Attachment:

Memorandum of Conversation.